REPORT

DATE: January 3, 2008

TO: Administration Committee; Regional Council

FROM: Jonathan Nadler, Program Manager, (213) 236-1884

SUBJECT: Authorize Use of General Funds for SIP White Paper

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve use of $25,000 from general fund reserves to pay SCAG's share of the cost for a State Implementation Plan White Paper.

BACKGROUND:

The 2007 State Implementation Plan Working Group, which includes but is not limited to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), Southern California Assn. of Governments (SCAG) and the California Air Resources Board (ARB) agreed to hire consultant services to provide policy, strategy and communications advice to assist the Working Group and its member agencies to identify, develop and disseminate solutions to attain federally mandated national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for the South Coast Air Basin. The Working Group is seeking fundamentally new ways of conceiving transportation and air quality strategies that are necessary to reduce air pollution and make headway toward greenhouse gas reductions that contribute to global warming.

The consultant will research and write a comprehensive visioning document framing the issues, challenges, tactics, regulatory requirements and health imperative to drive a coordinated response among Californians to achieve air pollution standards mandated by the federal Clean Air Act.

The SCAQMD has already contracted for the consultant services for a cost of $80,000. ARB has already agreed to contribute $20,000. SCAG's $25,000 contribution means SCAQMD will provide the balance of the contract costs and administer the contract.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds for this activity are available in the general fund reserve account.

Reviewed by:

Division Manager

Reviewed by:

Department Director

Reviewed by:

Chief Financial Officer

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS